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MARTLET

The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca
Volume 60, Issue 1 | Thursday, May 17, 2007 | Making art out of trash for 60 years

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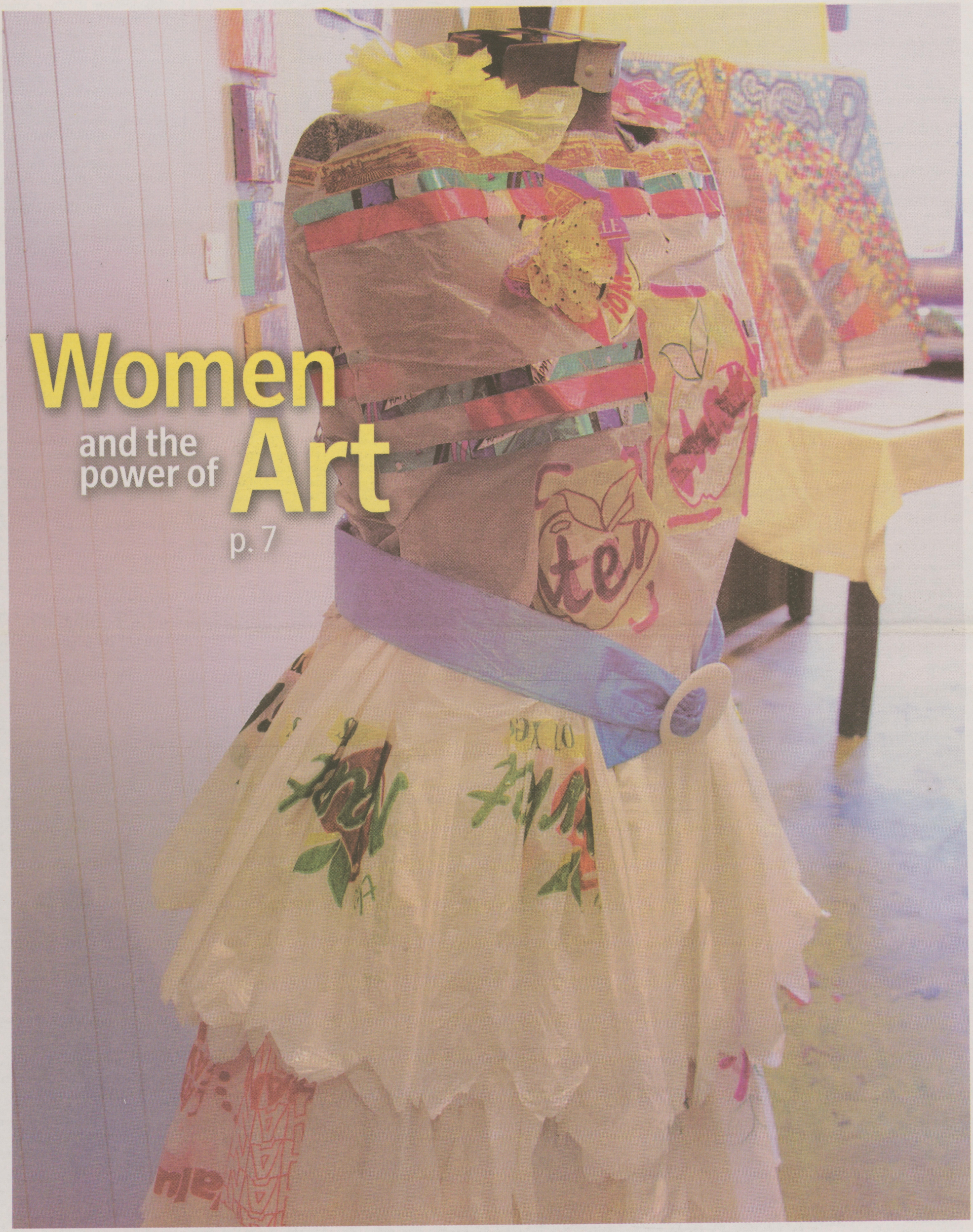

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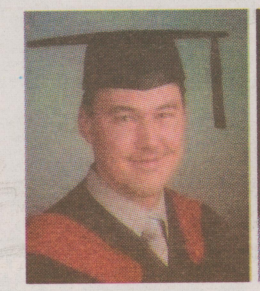

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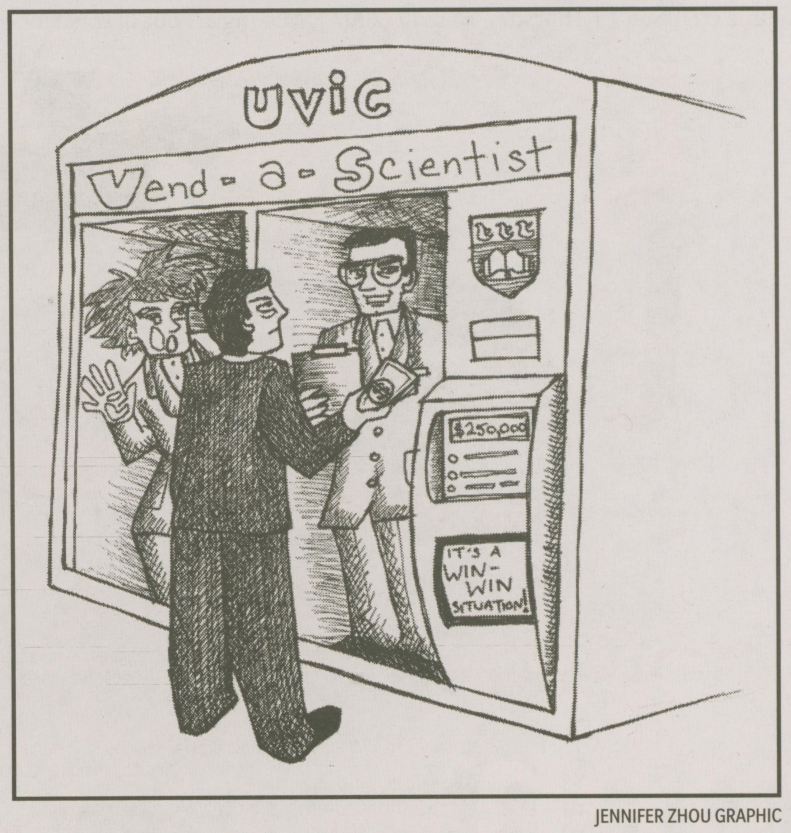
Government influences UVic research

by Tim Lindsay



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

The B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (MEMPR) has put its stamp on UVic's research priorities by doling out more than $2 million in funding for mining and oil and gas research in the last few years.

The money is devoted to helping the petroleum and mining industries tap into B.C.'s natural resources—including offshore oil and gas along the Pacific coast.

The research partnership between MEMPR and UVic began in 2003. The ministry recently committed an additional $200,000 to the program, which is only available to researchers at UVic.

"We as the donor get to call the shots in terms of broad priorities," said Ron Smyth, chief science officer with MEMPR's Offshore Oil and Gas Team. Smyth co-chairs a committee that determines what research projects get funding. The committee consists of three other MEMPR officials, as well as four UVic representatives.

The agreement between the university and ministry says the committee has "full and unrestricted authority and responsibility in approving research proposals, approving necessary funding, setting required reporting standards and deliverables."

However, the committee doesn't have the ultimate say when it comes to funding. Senior program managers from five branches within the B.C. ministry ultimately call the shots, since their branches provide the funding.

"It's up to [senior ministry program managers] whether they see the partnership as a vehicle to help deliver some of their programs or not," said Smyth. "If they see that they can do a contract directly with another university or an outside contractor, or if they have no spare money, then they're not going to put money in the partnership."

Peter Keller, UVic's dean of social sciences, said in an email that the research is in "targeted areas of mutual interest"—namely, the geology of B.C.

Keller added that the agreement creates job opportunities for co-op students. "It is a win-win-win situation for government, research faculty and students," he said.

The five branches of MEMPR provide funding for five separate research areas: mining, oil and gas, offshore oil and gas, alternative energy and First Nations issues. Most of the funding received by UVic has been devoted to mining research and oil and gas studies. About $160,000 has been committed to alternative energy research.

Smyth says the amount of funding to each area is dictated by the budget and priorities of the particular branch. The mining and oil and gas branches have larger budgets.

But while the ministry sets the broad research priorities, they are dependent on UVic researchers to step forward with proposals.

Matching the priorities of MEMPR with those of UVic researchers appears to be a challenge. As of February, only $1.5 million has been allocated to projects. Over $700,000 remains uncommitted, including over $400,000 for offshore oil and gas research.

"We haven't committed all of the money basically either because we didn't get enough proposals, or we didn't approve all of the proposals we received," said Smyth. "Some of the proposals are sent out for peer review, some are just reviewed internally, and some of them we look at and say, 'Well, this is really expensive, but we're not sure of the value of the research.'"

The uncommitted offshore oil and gas money raises the question of whether Smyth's committee could reallocate the money to other issues currently high on the political agenda, such as alternative energy or First Nations research projects.

According to Smyth, the funding could be transferred between priorities, but would require the approval of the assistant deputy minister (ADM) of the branch that originally provided the funding.

"It's difficult to do because an ADM has a mandate and a program to deliver on," said Smyth. "If those moneys are tagged for [offshore oil and gas], it would be very difficult for that money to be used for minerals, for example."

The latest round of funding applications were submitted in late April and the proposals are now being reviewed.

BOARD BRIEFS

On May 14, the new UVic Students' Society (UVSS) board of directors held their first meeting—a four-hour-and-45-minute marathon. Here are some of the highlights, both serious and fun:

To hell with Hallsor
The status of a motion passed at the society's March 30 special general meeting to hire Victoria lawyer Bruce Hallsor to do an electoral inquiry is in question.

At the May 14 meeting, the new board rejected a motion to have the UVSS director of services contact Hallsor to have him start his inquiry immediately.

At an April 23 UVSS meeting, the board passed then-chairperson Penny Beames' motion to have retired UVic professor Sandra McCallum also perform an electoral inquiry. Director of services Erica Virtue tried to have Beames' motion repealed, but current chairperson Tracy Ho declared Virtue's motion out of order because McCallum had already signed a contract with the UVSS.

Rough night for Harbidge
It was not a good evening for Corinne Harbidge.

The director-at-large put her name forward for four committees near the beginning of the meeting. After failing to be elected to the special events, finance and environmental responsibility committees, Harbidge found herself tied with Erica Virtue for the final spot on the electoral committee.

When asked to motivate for herself, a sarcastic Harbidge said, "It's doesn't even matter. You're not going to pick me anyway."

In fact, half the votes went to Harbidge, which meant both she and Virtue had another chance to motivate for themselves before a revote. "You didn't vote me for the other three [committees], so it'd be great if you vote for me this time," said Harbidge.

But it was Virtue's speech that determined the outcome. "Vote for Corinne," she said, withdrawing her candidacy.

To key or not to key?
Business student Jake Thibodeau wants to put free USB keys in every SUB Mug distributed to residence students in September.

The keys are part of a project Thibodeau is doing for class, and would help reduce paper, he said in addressing the UVSS board. His team would make a profit off the keys by selling advertising that would appear on the desktop when the 512-megabyte key is inserted into a computer.

But not all board members were sold. Director-at-large Rebecca Laing recalled a bad experience she had with a cheaply made USB key. "One of them cut down our entire computer," she said. "It wiped it out."

The matter was referred to the finance committee for more discussion.

— David Karp

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WORLD UNIVERSITY NEWS

You thought bunnies were bad...
Crikey—there's an alligator on the loose at Trinity Western University in Langley. The gator was first spotted by the university's campus security on April 23, according to a Trinity Western press release.

The university called in Langley Animal Control and the Reptile Refuge in Vancouver. The two-foot alligator is in danger of dying from the cold weather if it is not found.

It is not known how the alligator got onto the campus. Nobody has been hurt by the animal.

A bit of an overreaction
A student at Osaka University in Japan was convicted of killing his mother with a hammer, reported the *Mainichi Daily News*.

Kohei Tsujimori committed the July 5, 2006 murder after his mother scolded him for taking too long to graduate. "Normally, a 24-year-old has already graduated from university and got a job," said the mother, according to the court ruling.

Tsujimori repeatedly hit his mother in the back of her head with a hammer before strangling her with a towel. According to the judge who heard Tsujimori's case, the student was hooked on pachinko, a cross between pinball and slot machines.

"My mother criticized me in love, but I got unreasonably angry," Tsujimori told an Osaka courtroom. "I took it out on her in the worst possible way." He was sentenced to 10 years in prison on April 17.

Make love, not bombs
Several classes at Des Moines Area Community College in Iowa were evacuated April 26 when a suspicious package was found, reported the *Des Moines Register*. The package was heavy and had no return address.

Police and postal inspectors were called in, but when the package was X-rayed, it turned out to contain 500 condoms. "As one officer said, 'It must have been a lifetime supply,'" college spokesperson Dan Ivis told the *Register*.

The condoms were intended for a human sexuality class, and were sent by a previous guest speaker of that class. The prof was not expecting the package.

— David Karp

Double trouble for Felicita's

by David Karp

For the second time this May, Felicita's will close its doors as the result of a liquor licence violation.

The B.C. Liquor Control and Licensing Branch forced the campus pub to close from April 28 to May 9, and pay a $10,000 fine. This occurred because employees allowed students to drink directly from pitchers and failed to remove intoxicated patrons at the September 2006 SUB Party.

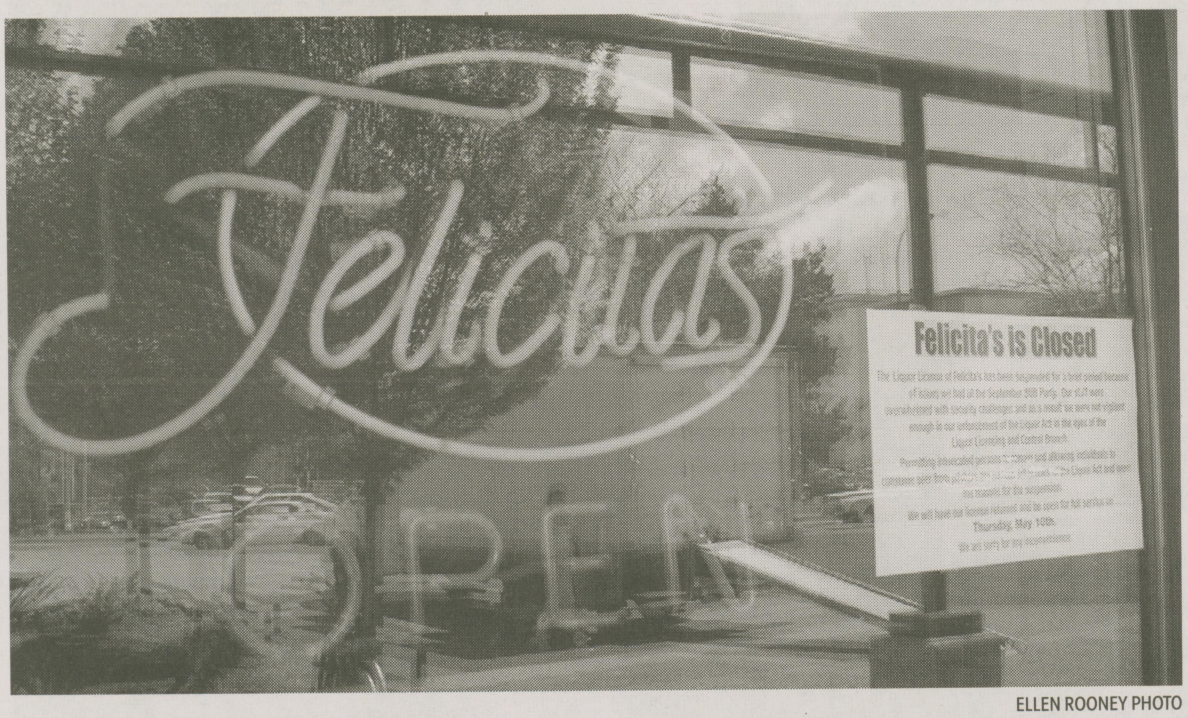
The latest closure, from May 18 to 31, is the result of a separate incident where a police officer observed Felicita's staff failing to remove a drunk student on March 16.

The officer observed the student drinking alone and exhibiting signs of drunkenness, such as his head hanging very low. "I watched as the male took a drink from the glass but then appeared to allow some of the drink to dribble back out of his mouth into the glass," said the officer in his report.

The officer, who is also a former liquor inspector, observed a server clearing the customer's table without addressing the student or alerting security staff. He watched the student leave the bar.

"The male was still holding his head very low, as though he had very slack muscle tone in his neck, and his eyes remained fixed on the ground," the officer reported. "Throughout this process he never looked up at me, which was remarkable given the fact that so many other people in the room were watching me."

The police officer approached the male outside the bar. The student told the policeman that he had consumed six pints of beer in the previous 75 minutes at Felicita's.



ELLEN ROONEY PHOTO

A closed sign fills the window of UVic's pub during its first closure in early May.

The *Martlet* contacted the student by e-mail. "I had a litre and a half of wine before I went, and I had skipped lunch that day so I was affected more than I would have been," wrote the student, who is not named to protect his privacy. "Felicita's did nothing wrong. I was not over-served."

The student explained he is a regular at Felicia's, and can normally handle six pints in a sitting as he is six-foot-one and weighs 260 pounds.

"I am over 19. I entered that bar being responsible for myself. The bar is not responsible for me. I am passionate about that bar and will be very upset if they are penalized for my actions," he said.

"We need to pay attention," said Marne Jensen, general manager of the UVic Students' Society, which runs Felicita's. "If the Liquor Board thought we weren't listening the first time around, we're listening now."

The students' society could have contested the fine in a hearing, but chose not to.

Jensen has sent a memo to all staff explaining the violations and reminding them to comply with liquor laws. She also plans to work with experts to prepare a training manual that will help employees recognize signs of intoxication.

To solve the problem of drinking from pitchers, Jensen is considering an end to serving beer jugs on Wednesday nights so that students won't be able to drink directly out of pitchers. "We want a good beer culture where it's fun and people don't get hurt," she said.

Still, some people are questioning the motivations of the liquor branch, especially given that the incident occurred two days after the branch's hearing on the SUB Party.

"We need to figure out what to do to make this go away. Clearly, someone's got the jones to get us," said David Clode, UVic's director of student and ancillary services. "We've had this liquor license for a really long, long time. And the fact that these sanctions now come in 2007 is surprising to me."

Employees hurt, bistro prospers

Felicita's second closure may hurt business more than the first.

The closure in early May meant the pub wasn't earning revenue—it took in $11,200 during the same time the previous year. However, staffing costs were significantly lower during the closure.

But Felicita's bad fortune is good news for the IQ Bistro, commonly known as the Grad Lounge. Restaurant manager Alan King-Jones said his business increased 20 to 25 per cent during the first closure, and he is expecting it to increase by up to 40 per cent this time around.

King-Jones added that he'll be scheduling extra shifts during this closure and may even increase the bistro's hours to accommodate Felicita's evening crowd. "I don't know if I am [going to increase hours] or not," King-Jones told the *Martlet* on May 15. "I'm hemming and hawing over it."

The second closure is bad news for many full-time Felicita's staff. "I was planning for a full month of work," said Cassie Bluhm, who has worked in the pub's kitchen for roughly three years. During the closure, most workers were offered a holiday without pay or two hours' call-in pay to clean the pub.

Bluhm said the closure had a big impact on her budget. "It's an expensive month. I'm moving and I have graduation coming up, so there are a lot of events surrounding that," she said.

Bluhm said workers were given less than 24 hours' notice of the first closure, even though the university was aware of the impending shutdown for weeks.

Marne Jensen, general manager of the UVic Students' Society, said she is considering payroll advances for her workers during the upcoming closure. "We would like to work with our employees to minimize the impact on their budget," she said. — *D. K.*

Felicita's pronounced incorrectly

Students have been pronouncing the name of the campus pub incorrectly. The name is Spanish, and should be pronounced fell-uh-SEE-tahs.

The pub was named after Felicita Gomez. Gomez, who was barely over five feet tall, spent more than 20 years as the day janitor in the Student Union Building (SUB), from 1967 until the late 1980s. One former colleague called her a "workhorse" and another marveled at how clean she kept the women's washroom.

"She was just like a mom," recalled Lisa Sheppard, a manager at Cinecenta. "You'd be sitting in the SUB Upper Lounge eating your lunch and she'd be vacuuming under your legs. You'd just be like, 'Hi Mrs. Gomez!'"

Indeed, that may be a reason why the name of the pub is mispronounced—the janitor was known as Mrs. Gomez or Phyllis. "We never used her [first] name," said Cinecenta programmer Michael Hoppe. "I guess it's been anglicized into fell-ISS-uh-tahs."

PROVIDED IMAGE

An image of Mrs. Gomez was featured on a Felicita's menu.

— *D. K.*

Data shows UVic students have problem with alcohol

UVic students have a problem with alcohol, according to studies.

"People don't drink on a social basis around here. They drink for the purpose of getting drunk," said David Clode, UVic's director of student and ancillary services. "People somehow think that everybody drinks like this. The data tells us they don't. They just drink like this here."

The last comprehensive survey of alcohol use, which compared universities across Canada, was the 1998 Canadian Campus Survey. The survey found UVic respondents were nearly twice as likely to have experienced serious consequences from drinking than the national average.

A study of 355 UVic students, released earlier this year, revealed that respondents drank an average of 3.80 and 3.65 alcoholic beverages on Friday and Saturday respectively. And male students drank more than female students, on average.

In the last year, over 80 per cent of respondents participated in drinking games at least once, while 60 per cent participated four to six times.

Over half of students had more than four hangovers in the last year, while 70 per cent of students blacked out from alcohol use in the last year.

Roughly one fifth of students admitted to drinking and driving in the previous year.

"Seventy per cent of our population comes from somewhere else," said Clode. "They don't have to go home to mom and dad every night and explain themselves. That, to me, is the most telling effect as to why we have this problem." — *D. K.*

Focus on the family

Alcohol strategy to target parents

Parents of every first-year UVic student may soon receive a handbook on how to discuss alcohol with their son or daughter. The strategy would be the first of its kind in Canada.

"We want to implement this," said David Clode, UVic's director of student and ancillary services. The plan also has the support of the board of UVic's students society, which voted to endorse the strategy at its May 14 meeting.

If university administrators give the thumbs up, the 46-page handbook could be mailed out as early as June. The cost of printing and mailing the handbooks is estimated at $20,000.

A Parent Handbook for Talking with University Students About Alcohol contains facts about alcohol, as well as strategies on how to communicate with young adults. The handbook was written by Rob Turrisi, a Penn State bio-behavioural health professor. "Ideally, your discussions will result in an explicit agreement that binge drinking will not be pursued," the handbook reads.

A survey of 355 mainly first-year UVic students conducted earlier this year found that more than 60 per cent of participants had never talked with their parents about how drinking can lead to serious problems.

Paweena Sukhawathanakul, a fourth year UVic student majoring in psychology and biology, has been working on the handbook strategy for more than a year. "The literature shows that if you communicate with parents, specifically on any alcohol-related topics, in high school or any time in your life, you're less likely to engage in risky behaviours," she said. "You're less likely to experience negative consequences."

After researching a variety of strategies to reduce drinking problems, Sukhawathanakul concluded that involving parents was the most effective. Still, doctors and counsellors at UVic were recently trained in motivational interviewing, a technique which assists students who seek out help for their drinking problems.

The intention of the handbook strategy is to reduce negative consequences associated with drinking, not necessarily drinking itself. "It's not alcohol prevention—it's harm reduction," said Sukhawathanakul.

She surveyed 116 parents of UVic students, and found that the handbook would not significantly affect their decision to have their son or daughter attend UVic.

Turrisi's handbook has been used at five universities in the United States with positive results. Sukhawathanakul has been working with Turrisi to produce a Canadian version of the handbook by changing legal and cultural references. "There are some drinking games that are really obviously American," said Sukhawathanakul.

UVic is also purchasing a licence for websites www.e-chug.com and www.e-toke.com, which will provide students with information about their alcohol and drug consumption. — *D. K.*

ANNA CZOLPINKSI PHOTO

The Friends of the Centre on Aging, pictured above, are excited about what a $2.25 million donation will mean for aging research.

Record alumni donation will help elderly

by Anna Czolpinski

UVic recently received $2.25 million for research on the process of aging.

The donation, made by Erich and Shelley Mohr, is the largest-ever gift to the university from alumni. The donation money will go toward funding a research chair that will work jointly with UVic's psychology department and the university's Centre on Aging.

"They have set a new standard in giving," said social sciences dean Peter Keller. "[They wanted to] give back to those who have given to them...so that those coming after them have the same experience and opportunity that they had."

The university will conduct an international search to find a world-class scholar to lead UVic in national and international research initiatives on aging.

The main duty of the chair will be to do research on developmental psychology and aging. The chair will also teach senior-undergraduate and graduate classes, supervise and advise graduate students, and perform guest lectures and public talks.

Developmental psychology investigates lifespan. "Rather than looking at people at one point in time in their lives, the field [of] developmental psychology is about looking at change over time," said Elaine Gallagher, director of the Centre on Aging.

The aim of this approach to the study of aging is to find clues to diseases such as Alzheimer's, dementia and depression by observing people in their earlier years.

While UVic is already a major player in the world of aging research, there's room for expansion "We are aiming to position ourselves in the top dozen in the world," said Keller. The chair will raise the profile of gerontology—the study of aging—as a field at UVic.

"The money will also enable longitudinal work," said Janet Stepaniuk, a UVic master's student studying lifespan developmental psychology. Graduate students often spend years on research projects, only to have them die because there is nobody to oversee the results of their work in the long-run.

The donation will also help connect younger researchers with elders. "For young people, old age is so far removed from their own personal realities," said Gallagher. "Apart from occasional contact with their own grandparents [they do not come into contact with old people].

"But given the current demographic changes...there will be many wonderful career opportunities in this field [in sectors as varied as] medicine, finance and engineering."

Centre on Aging is golden opportunity for UVic researchers

by Anna Czolpinski

There are 47 UVic researchers who identify aging as a major component of their work.

The Sedgewick building, which houses the Centre on Aging, displays a number of plaques listing both master's and doctoral theses related to aging. The theses come from a variety of disciplines—including physical education, philosophy, engineering and law.

"The interesting thing about aging is that it does not seem to be influenced by just one thing," said Allison Bielak, a UVic student working on her PhD in lifespan developmental psychology.

Variables that influence aging include genetics, diet, exercise, lifestyle, exposure to toxic chemicals, infectious diseases, air and water quality, and the extent to which people are engaged and respected in society.

One component of Centre on Aging chair Elaine Gallagher's research involves the investigation of falls among the elderly. One third of people over age 65 have a fall every year. Twenty per cent suffer an injury as a result, and eight per cent suffer a fracture. Half of these are hip fractures, the most expensive and difficult kind of fractures to treat. Gallagher is trying to find ways to reduce falls.

Other researchers at the centre investigate the requirements of age-friendly cities, family caregiving, loneliness and isolation among the elderly in rural communities, and the impact of changes in the health care system on the elderly.

UVic graduate student Janet Stepaniuk is investigating the role transportation plays in the independence of older people. "When older adults lose their driver's licence, the transition to alternative forms of transportation is often very difficult," she explained. "Imagine getting on the bus at 8:20, right before the first classes start at UVic...[encountering] a sea of people with better mobility than you."

Many elderly people do not know how to use the bus, and taxis are expensive. Once a person loses their mobility they may become isolated or even depressed.

Stepaniuk's work looks at how to remedy this problem by training people to use alternative modes of transportation, as well as encouraging them to maintain their mobility and autonomy.

It's important to recognize that many elderly people can no longer drive. "We need to devise a clever transition period," said UVic dean of social sciences Peter Keller, referring to the period when older adults become unable to drive. "All of this is tied in with how to build an environment that facilitates aging with dignity," he said.

But not all elderly people have mobility issues. Recently, Stepaniuk met a 92-year-old retired physician who continued to volunteer at the TB Clinic in Victoria. On a day-to-day basis he chose to take the bus, and was still able to drive to go on golfing and fishing trips—places the bus could not take him.

Senate report

by Tim Lindsay

Charged with governing academic policy at UVic, the senate congregated May 4 to pass a whopping 21 motions in less than two hours.

The politely-worded motions included receiving—"with thanks"—reports from the ombudsperson at UVic and the Senate Committee on Appeals.

Disability fees exposed

Students with a learning disability sometimes pay thousands to demonstrate they're actually disabled, according to a report by ombudsperson Martine Conway.

Documenting a learning disability under UVic's *Academic Accommodation and Access for Students with Disabilities* policy may cost a student up to $3,000 up-front. The government will only reimburse up to $1,200 and only under certain circumstances.

Conway told the *Martlet* that not all students with disabilities identify themselves because of stigmas attached to some disabilities by society.

"If you suffer from depression," said Conway, "you may be under treatment with your doctor, but you may not think of the depression as being in itself a 'disability.'"

But if it is going to affect a student on an ongoing, recurring basis, it may be possible to take a "planned approach" under the policy to accommodate the condition.

Survey measures engagement

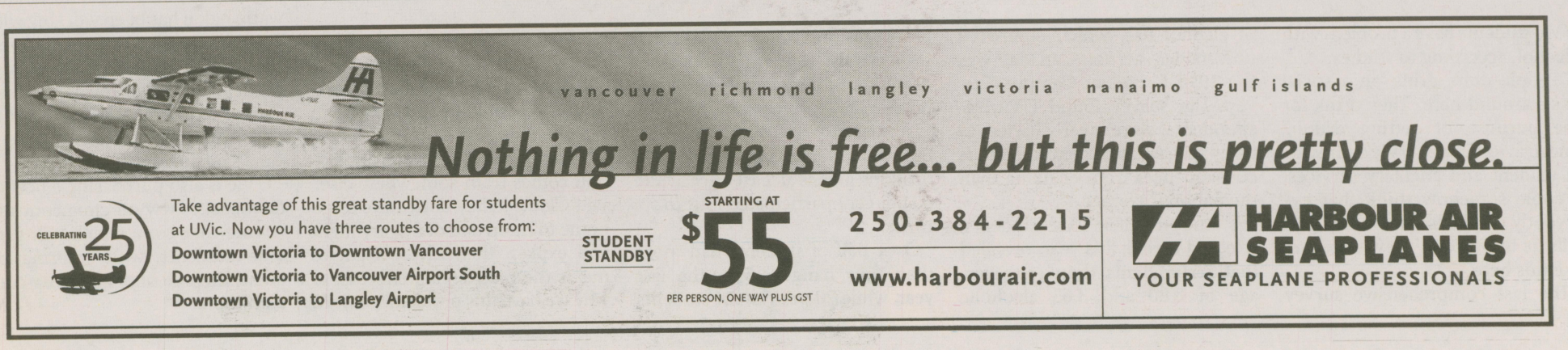
UVic recently participated in the National Survey of Student Engagement, which measures students' interest and participation levels, both in and out of the classroom.

Tony Eder, UVic's director of institutional planning and analysis, said there is a large amount of evidence that student success is tied to student engagement. Instructors can see how their departmental survey results compare to departments at universities across Canada.

Eder noted that UVic students have a very high level of volunteerism. But the numbers reveal that there is room for improvement when it comes to incorporating community involvement into coursework.

The results below show the percentage of fourth year UVic students who often participated "in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course." Some faculties appear to be successfully promoting community engagement more than others:

36%	Human & Social Dev.
15%	Education
12%	Business
8%	Engineering
6%	Fine Arts
6%	Social Sciences
5%	Science
4%	Humanities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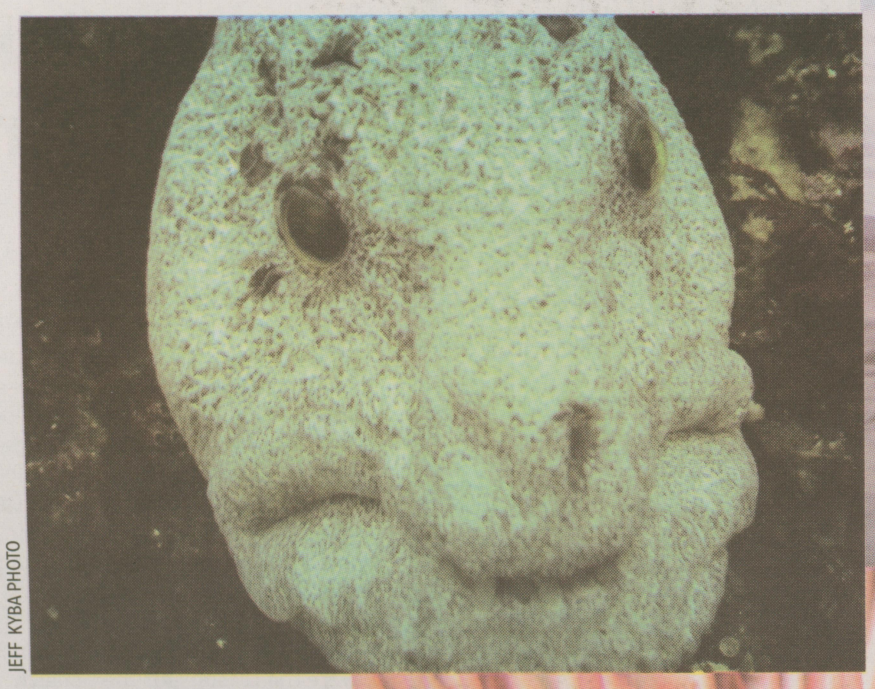
The Cape Abel boat takes divers out to spots off of Ogden Point in James Bay.

JEFF KYBA PHOTO



JEFF KYBA PHOTO

A male wolf eel peeks out of his den at the wreck of the Themis, north of Port Hardy.

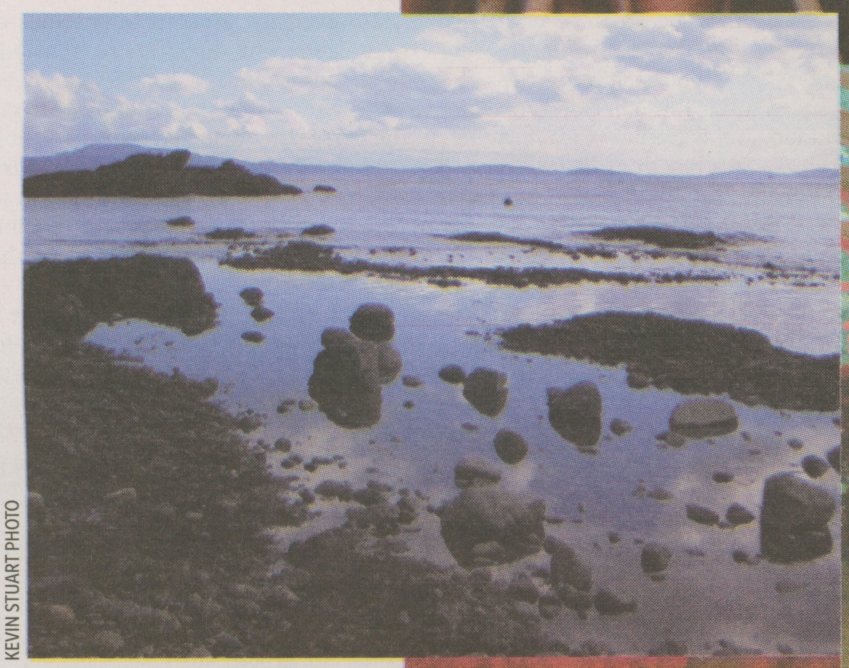
ANNA CZOLPINKSI PHOTO

Recent UVic graduate Susan Winnitoy adjusts her gear next to a row of scuba tanks at the dive shed in Bamfield.

A red urchin at Reay Island, near the Pender Islands. Urchins crawl on the ocean floor using their spines as stilts.

JEFF KYBA PHOTO

A WHOLE NEW WORLD



KEVIN STUART PHOTO

It's a beautiful day for diving at Drummond Bay on South Pender Island.

These aren't flowers—they are sea anemones. They're also carnivores. Sea anemones use their tentacles to sting and poison fish.

KEVIN STUART PHOTO

JEFF KYBA PHOTO

A basket star clings on to the Browning Wall in what divers call God's Pocket, north of Port Hardy.

Editorials

Protecting academic freedom

Have you ever kept your hand down in class because your classmates will ridicule your point of view? Have you ever tailored an essay to suit your professor's biases just to get a better grade? These types of stories are common at universities—even in Canada, where we are guaranteed our freedom of speech and are allowed to openly criticize our government.

That's why a new library dedicated exclusively toward pornography, which opened recently at the University of Toronto, is a positive step toward academic freedom. According to *Maclean's*, the library contains more than 1,000 movies, hundreds of disks filled with Internet porn, dozens of books and more than 400 copies of Playboy.

On the surface, pornography may be shallow and hollow. But it's significant to modern culture—72 million people worldwide view Internet pornography per day, according to the National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre. The library shows the willingness of Canada's largest university to ignore taboos and political correctness by letting researchers pursue such a "dirty" topic.

Still, there is room for improvement. Access to Toronto's pornography library is restricted. Anyone wanting to access it must submit a formal letter to the university. Given the nature of the collection, this is understandable.

But it also restricts academic freedom.

Relocating the past

Seventy-five years ago, British artist George Southwell painted four murals on the bricks of the lower rotunda of the B.C. legislature. They depict First Nations people in subservient positions to white male settlers.

For decades people have called the paintings offensive and wanted them out of our provincial landmark. Last month government voted to eventually relocate them to a museum at an estimated cost of $1 million of taxpayers' money.

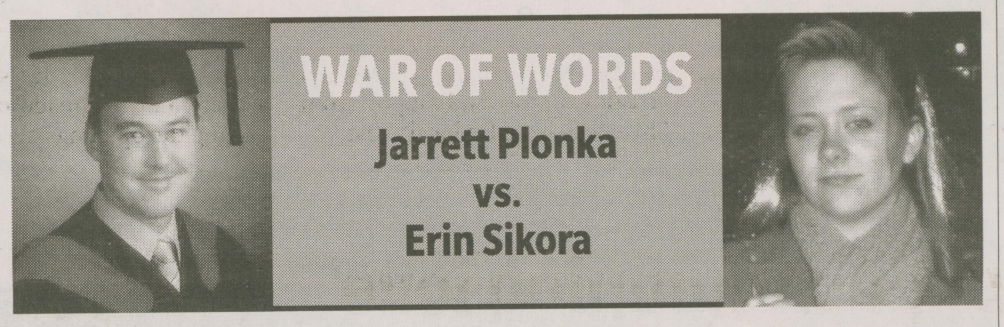
Those against the move argue that, appropriate or not, the paintings speak to how First Nations people were viewed in the 1930s and are historical treasures. Some claim the art is being misinterpreted. Take the painting *Justice*, for example. The European— standing, gun in hand, behind a submissive Aboriginal man— may be ensuring that he be punished. Or maybe he's merely watching over treaty negotiations—the wastebasket in the foreground is overflowing with crumpled paper.

The latter interpretation, in fact, is still quite relevant. Government has, as of yet, failed to settle treaties with our country's rightful owners. And while removing the murals shows a level of respect for First Nations' wishes, it's only a small step towards alleviating decades of institutionalized and deeply ingrained prejudice towards First Nations.

We can update our history books and redecorate our legislature to be more culturally sensitive. But the past doesn't go anywhere. Understanding errors rather than hiding them may be important to prevent a repeat of historical low points—like wastebaskets full of crumpled draft treaties.

I HAVE A PAPER DUE IN MY 4th WAVE FEMINISM CLASS.
ON WHAT?
COMPARATIVE FILM STRUCTURES: 'DOMINATRIX WITHOUT MERCY' VS. 'RAPE SQUAD'.
PORN IN ACADEMIA

TK LONGMIRE GRAPHIC



The former chair of UVic's Graduate Students' Society (GSS), Tayfun Ince, has started petitioning for a referendum on whether or not to remove the society from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). According to the CFS website, the organization exists "to provide students with an effective and united voice, provincially and nationally." Two UVic student bloggers debate whether or not the GSS should pull out of the CFS.

Plonka: Basically, this is about the freedom to be pro-choice. I'm not allowed to get an education at UVic without joining the CFS. If membership in the CFS really benefits me, why not trust me to decide whether or not it's worthwhile? The fact that they don't trust students to appreciate the CFS speaks volumes to the actual value of its contribution.

Besides, let's remember that Charter experts have long concluded that our Canadian right to "freedom of association" necessarily includes a right to freedom of non-association. Why should it be denied?

Sikora: Your interpretation of the Charter is flawed. The whole GSS and UVSS joined the CFS when they held referenda and the members chose to join. You join the CFS when you choose to go to UVic—just like, since Confederation, you become a citizen of Canada and B.C. at the same time. CFS dues are like U-Pass fees. We all pay our fair share and save money on services that students voted for. Except that the CFS is cheaper and we get a whole range of services from them.

Plonka: On the contrary, the Lavigne decision showed that such a choice cannot be contained to choosing the place you attend. The only flawed interpretation is your analogy, whose strength rests on the false implication that student unions and universities are as inseparable as Confederation.

As for providing services, not only do you ignore the fact that we've been allowed to opt out of "services" like the *Martlet* without any problems, but you forget that if these services are valuable, we'd continue to use them outside the political CFS.

Sikora: The Lavigne decision actually contradicts your earlier "right to non-association" interpretation. Read it again. I said that the relationship between UVSS/GSS and the CFS was like Confederation, and it is. It's more legitimate even. There was a referendum where students were aware of what membership in the CFS would mean and they decided to join. I can't understand the point of leaving. Getting services like a health provider, cheaper travel, lobbying, the handbook, and much more for a very small fee seems like a pretty good deal to me.

Plonka: I voted in no referendum. I've used none of the services you've mentioned here. Ignoring how counterproductive the CFS lobbying is for students, what they call student interest I call a veil for using our money to further their political agenda, as evidenced by pro-NDP chants during last February's Day of Action. The low turnout at those protests belies discontent with the CFS.

But if you like democracy, why have you given no argument against letting students now decide for themselves whether or not these services are worth it?

Sikora: The goals of the CFS are to unite the student movement by providing a stronger, more representative voice when talking to government, and to provide useful services at a very low cost to its members.

Those who oppose these goals will use conspiracy theories and try to ignore the obvious CFS successes (anyone else glad that tuition stopped skyrocketing?), but I don't buy it. The GSS can leave the CFS if the members democratically decide to, but I have yet to see a convincing argument for why they should.

Organizers need to accept responsibility for SUB Party

by Gemma Karstens-Smith

It's time for someone to take the blame for what went wrong at last fall's SUB Party.

While organizers have admitted that the event spiraled out of control, responsibility for how the Student Union Building was allowed to become a frenzied mess of drunken partygoers hasn't been claimed.

The Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) punished Felicita's for its role in the event. The campus pub was fined $10,000 and forced to close from April 28 to May 9. Patrons drinking beer straight from pitchers and the staff's failure to remove drunks were the reasons for the penalty.

But were the fine and suspension justified? The LCLB ruling marked the first time a B.C. establishment has been both fined and suspended for its first infraction of liquor laws. Seems a little harsh, no? Felicita's staff did the best they could under the circumstances. Partiers were jumping fences to get into the already too-full pub, while other partiers were passing out in booths—it's not surprising that staff weren't able to run around making sure that all partiers were drinking from glasses instead of pitchers and that the patio was puke-free.

David Clode, a senior administrator at UVic, told the *Martlet* that UVic students have a problem with drunkenness. Taking a quick glance at last fall's SUB party, some people may be inclined to agree. Getting wasted was the objective of the night for a lot of people. However, while partiers exercising more common sense would have helped the situation, it wouldn't have avoided it completely. Less intoxicated partiers would have been just as angry and frustrated with the overcrowded and under-organized situation inside as the drunken partiers were. It was predominantly this frustration and anger—not the alcohol—that led to the near-riot situation.

Felicita's staff had a responsibility to cut off all partiers who'd reached their limit. The partiers had a responsibility to themselves and each other to know their limits and stay within them.

However, the greatest blame falls on the organizers who had the responsibility to reject admittance to partiers who were obviously too drunk before they even entered the party. They also had the responsibility to keep the number of people at the party at a reasonable level by only allowing in people with tickets and cutting off the possibility of people sneaking in over fences or through back doors.

As long as people refuse to take the blame for what went wrong, it's difficult for the UVSS to come up with ways to plan a safer, successful event for the future.

When it comes to the SUB party, the responsibility pie is huge. Who wants a piece?

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Aroused?
Tell us: letters@martlet.ca

Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited for length. Deadline for letters is 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our editorial meetings. Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Street-involved women 'learn to soar' through art

by Anna Czolpinski

Homeless women in Victoria had the chance to express themselves through art, thanks to a project involving UVic professors.

Phoenix Rising was an art exhibit put on by a number of Victoria's street-involved women which ran from April 29 to May 11 at two downtown galleries. Street-involved refers to women who are homeless, were previously homeless, or are at risk of becoming homeless.

The show was a sequel to the 2006 exhibit *Busted but not Broken*, which shared a number of street-involved women's experiences with violence by using art.

Our Place, an institution aimed at helping Victoria's homeless and adults in crisis, helped prepare and run the exhibit. Our Place provides transitional housing, meal service, a drop-in center and employment skills training.

The programs at Our Place represent a move away from the charity model to a social justice model which gives people the tools to help themselves and make their own decisions, explained Corrina Craig, an Our Place employee.

"It's a hand-up instead of a handout," said Craig.

Jill Carter is one of the artists who contributed to the show. She had been homeless until just over a year ago. "When Corrina and I met, I was a mess...I fell between the cracks in Vancouver," she said in an interview at Our Place.

She turned things around by finding a place of her own, and came to embrace art. She learned to express herself through her poetry, and was recently asked to be a guest speaker about social issues and creativity in a UVic creative writing class.

She has come a long way for someone who so recently lived on the streets. "The project had a lot to do with it," she said. "It teaches you to do for yourself."

"[Last year's show *Busted but not Broken*] was the first time our voices were heard, but it was only the beginning...since then, a lot of things have happened in our lives and we are spreading our wings and learning to soar," said Carter.

ANNA CZOLPINSKI PHOTO

A tile mosaic from the 2007 *Phoenix Rising* exhibit, made by a group of artists.

The exhibit was a collaboration between a number of partners, including UVic's newly-formed Office of Community-Based Research and Darlene Clover from UVic's department of leadership studies. The women also received artistic expertise and support from Shylene Schlackl, a local artist.

An example of the show's art is the dress made of plastic bags pictured on the cover of this week's *Martlet*. The piece was made by Grace Kwah, and is called *MO-RE-MA JO-RUN: unique clothing art, Everlasting 10,000 BC – 2007 AD.* Also exhibited in the show was a dress and top made of leather. During the opening gala of the exhibit, artist Grace Kwah explained how the leather piece represented her ancestors.

She, however, would be the ancestor of *MO-RE-MA JO-RUN*, a piece made of modern non-biodegradable material. Kwah said that when the plastic bags broke down they would be her legacy and she would be their ancestor.

CD REVIEW | FEIST

Feist finds 'zany, couch-jumping love'

Feist
The Reminder
Cherrytree/Interscope Records

by Melanie Tromp

Fans of Leslie Feist's eclectic effort, *Let it Die* (2004), might be surprised to hear Canada's foremost indie-pop songstress smooth out her folksy edges on *The Reminder.*

As a musical chameleon, Feist has the unmatched ability to make a diverse track list work. The album's journey from fancy pop to bare-bones folk and back again is never too confusing for the listener to enjoy the ride. Feist possesses a rare talent for conveying distilled happiness that is neither cheesy nor pretentious.

The album opens by highlighting Feist's vocal range on the understated *So Sorry,* but quickly launches into unabashedly blissful pop with *I Feel it All* and the instrumentally-exquisite *My Moon My Man.* An unexpected and upbeat tempo carries throughout nearly the entire genre-spanning album, ending with the hopeful and love-infused *How My Heart Behaves.*

It sounds like Feist has found love—zany, couch-jumping love—since the release of her debut. But that hasn't translated into a loss of her talent for experimental melodies and sounds. *Sealion* evokes a Bjork vibe and has clapping percussion and a fantastic guitar riff winding through the chorus. Feist's ethereal voice is beautiful in the jazz-inspired tunes *The Limit to Your Love* and *Brandy Alexander,* paying homage to the style that catapulted Feist onto the international indie music scene three years ago.

Forgettable tracks include folk-tinged *The Park,* where tedious vocals get lost in the simulated nature sounds and bird songs. *The Water* has an elevator-music feel, and *Intuition* is too sleepy to come right after the infectious pop single *1234.*

Feist can't be criticized for trying something different on her sophomore effort—if anything, her unique grasp of upbeat, aggressive pop will broaden her audience. But the album has fewer exciting moments than *Let it Die* and it is light on Feist's trademark throwback to jazzy, sultry disco-cool.

Overall, Feist has more hits than misses on *The Reminder*—but be sure to pick up *Let it Die* and fall in love with Canada's answer to edgy, interesting indie-folk brilliance.

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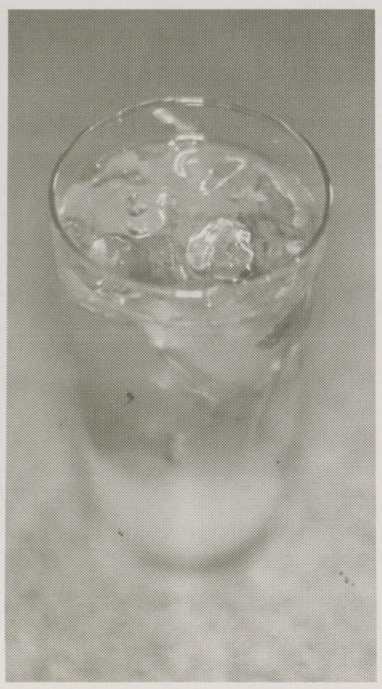
DRINKING WITH DEREK

Sweet citrus drink adds Caribbean vibe to summer



WILLIE LI PHOTO

Mojito

(pronounced moe-HEE-toe)

8 leaves fresh mint
5 ml (1 tsp) sugar
1 can of Sprite
30 ml (1 oz) white rum
80 ml (1/3 cup) ice
1 lime wedge

Muddle mint, sugar and a splash of Sprite. To muddle, use the handle of a wooden spoon to crush these ingredients in a 500 ml (2 cup) serving glass, releasing the natural oil and aroma.

Add ice,and rum. Fill the glass with Sprite. Stir.

Squeeze the lime wedge into the drink and enjoy through a straw while soaking up some sunshine.

If you have mint or lime left over, you can use it as a garnish.

Makes one drink.

Cuba may be a favourite vacation spot because of its sunny beaches, but it's also known for its rum.

Cubans are masters at manufacturing rum, which can be seen in quality brands like Havana Club. These distillers believe rum should be enjoyed for its own flavour—a hard sell to the all-inclusive tourists whose standard order is a Cuba Libre (rum and Coke).

In an attempt to satisfy both the tourists and locals, Cuban bartenders concocted a beverage that has the refreshing qualities of a cocktail without compromising the flavor of the rum. This cocktail is called the mojito, and it can be summed up as "mint infused lemonade." The use of fresh mint provides a sweet aroma while the blend of citrus plays a supporting role to the warmth of the rum. As a result, the mojito is guaranteed to be refreshing and might make a good addition to the menu at your local lemonade stand.

— Derek Mandel

Muddling

The process of muddling involves the sugar, the mint and the Sprite. The sugar exfoliates the mint, while the Sprite provides a medium for the mint's oil to disperse.

A wooden spoon is the closest household object to a muddler—a long, smooth wooden stick with a bulb at the end. The wood prevents damage to the glass, but if you don't have a wooden spoon, you could use a metal one.

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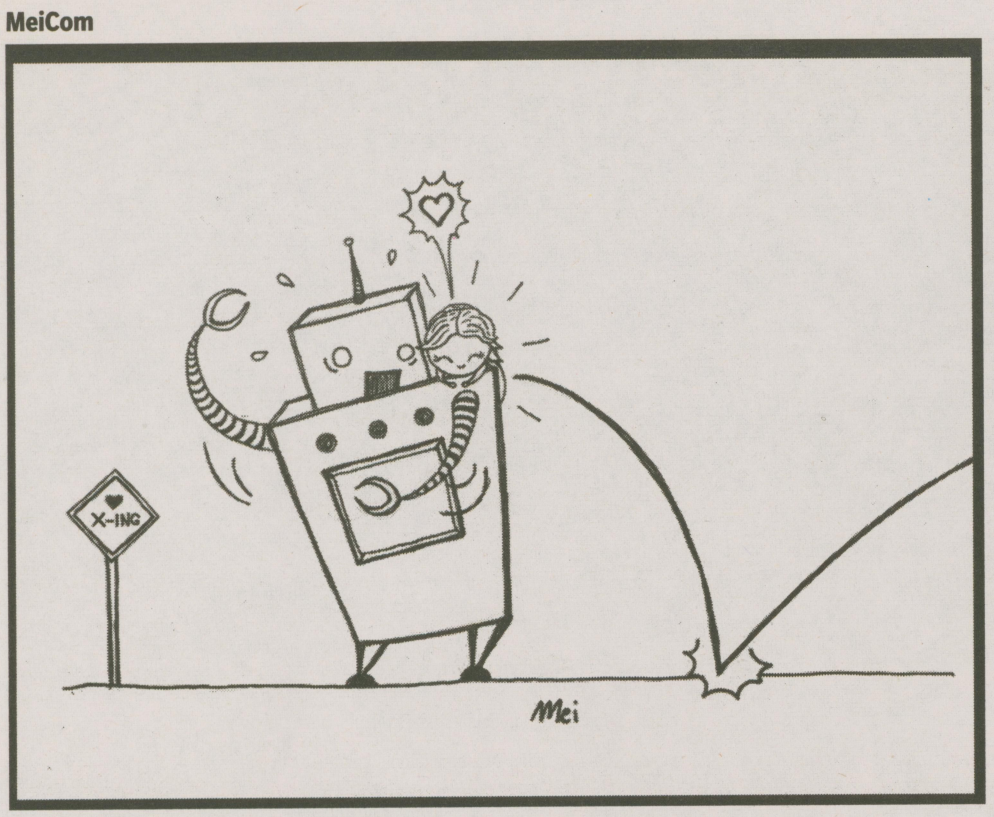
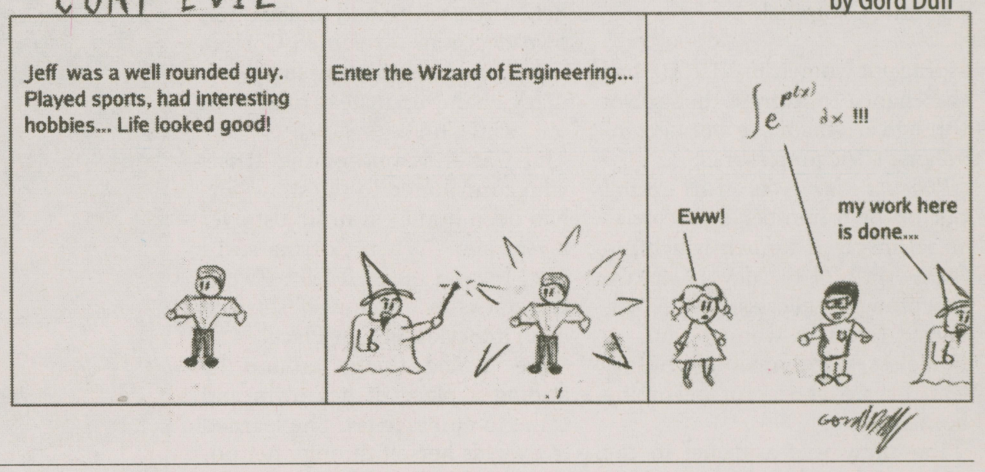


by Caitlin Rassenti

LILY & JELLYBEAN
YOU KNOW WHAT? THE BUS IS AN AMAZING THING!
DESPITE THE LATE DRIVERS, FULL BUSES AND INTERESTING SMELLS, THE PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM IS A MIRACLE OF MODERN LIFE
IN FACT WE SHOULD CELEBRATE THE BUS IN ALL IT'S GLORIES!!!
FAILED YOUR DRIVING TEST AGAIN HUH?
SHUT UP

CORP EVIL

by Gord Duff


Jeff was a well rounded guy. Played sports, had interesting hobbies... Life looked good!
Enter the Wizard of Engineering...
$\int e^{p(x)} dx$!!!
Eww!
my work here is done...

Field hockey tourney comes to campus

by David Karp

World-class field hockey is coming to UVic, and Canada's got something to prove.

Field Hockey Canada announced that the university will host a women's qualifying tournament from late April to early May 2008. The event will pit Canada against five other countries for one spot in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. It could also mean improvements to UVic's field hockey facility.

Canada has been absent in Olympic women's field hockey since 1992. "I can assure you that the eyes of the world will be watching," said national team coach Sally Bell.

UBC originally bid for the tournament, but Canada's bid was switched to Victoria six months ago. "UVic was very supportive and UBC was not supportive," said Cheryl Taunton, chair of the tournament's organizing committee.

Hosting the tournament means that Canada's cash-strapped field hockey program will save on international travel costs. "It makes a big difference to the team because the travel costs aren't coming out of their training budget," said Taunton.

For UVic, it might mean additions to their $2-million field hockey facility. Covered benches, score clocks and other investments may be made for the tournament, said Clint Hamilton, the university's director of athletics and recreation. "There could be scholarships left behind," he added.

The tournament will also showcase some local players. "Victoria's got a large field hockey base so this will show some of the kids what level they can aspire to," said national team star Andy Rushton, who played for UVic from 1997 to 2001.

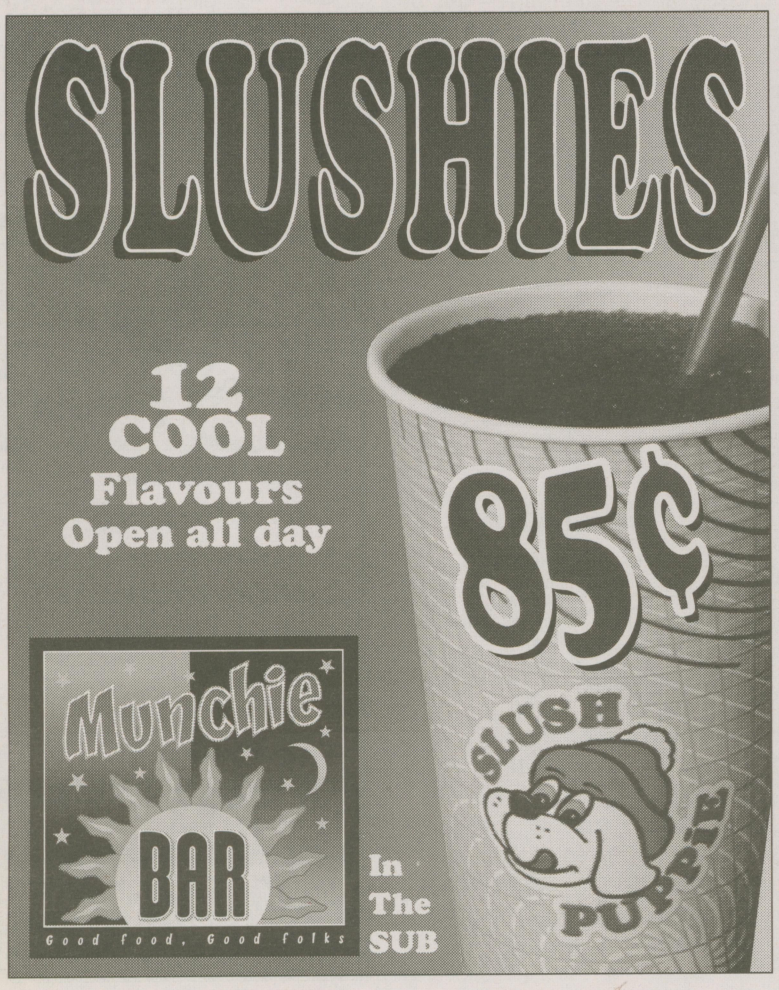
PHOTO COURTESY OF JAN HUCKENDUBLER

Former UVic star Andy Rushton in action for Team Canada at the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Former Vikes stars Ali Lee and Thea Culley may also return to campus for the tournament. The third-year UVic students put their educations on hold in January to train with the national team in Vancouver.

Vikes coach Lynne Beecroft is hoping this tournament will attract more field hockey players to UVic. "I'd like to think kids would want to play for the Vikes this year because they can look out their window and see the national team playing," she said.

It will also give her team a chance to see the best players in action. "Because it's not televised, people don't know how fast you can play this game or how well you can play this game," Beecroft said.



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Contact: Sweta Gupta, (250) 589-7737, aolvictoria@yahoo.com, www.artofliving.org

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